TRENDS

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ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, September 20, 1984 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended September 15 totaled an estimated 19.1 billion ton-miles, 9.6 percent above the corresponding week a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative traffic volume for the first 37 weeks of 1984 was an estimated 664.0 billion ton-miles, 15.1 percent above the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended September 15 totaled 425,212, up 6.6 percent from last year, and 16.7 percent above the preceding holiday week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 11.5 percent in the East, 6.8 percent in the South and 3.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1983, 12 of the 21 commodity groups decreased, but coal loadings increased by 17,125 cars (14.7 percent) and metallic ores showed a gain of 3,162 cars (21.9 percent). Twenty of the 21 commodity groups increased from the preceding holiday week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended September 8 totaled 47,452 cars, up 15.4 percent from the corresponding week of 1983, and 79,304 trailers and/or containers, 11.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 36 weeks of the year was 1,820,504 cars, 15.7 percent higher than last year, and 3,138,941 trailers and/or containers, up 15.3 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 9/15/84:

	Loadings in Week ended Sept. 15, 1984		Change from Corresponding Week 1983			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	31,549	I	1,640	5.5	I	4,519	14.3
Other farm products	3,209	D	488	13.2	I	653	20.3
Metallic ores	17,585	I	3,162	21.9	I	1,510	8.6
Coal	133,923	I	17,125	14.7	I	16,575	12.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	13,642	I	2,594	23.5	I	2,514	18.4
Nonmetallic minerals	13,711	I	333	2.5	I	1,429	10.4
Grain mill products	10,469	D	2,503	19.3	I	1,561	14.9
Food and kindred products	11,201	D	1,397	11.1	I	1,799	16.1
Primary forest products	14,214	D	405	2.8	I	2,764	19.4
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,087	D	69	1.0	I	1,638	23.1
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,090	D	117	0.8	I	1,707	11.3
Chemicals and allied products	25,149	I	870	3.6	I	2,085	8.3
Petroleum products	5,098	D	132	2.5	I	699	13.7
Stone, clay and glass products	11,780	D	25	0.2	I	1,439	12.2
Coke	5,095	D	466	8.4	I	467	9.2
Metals and products	8,052	D	200	2.4	I	1,158	14.4
Motor vehicles and equipment	21,008	I	2,841	15.6	I	5,280	25.1
Waste and scrap materials	9,780	I	741	8.2	I	2,475	25.3
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,659	D	772	9.2	I	1,320	17.2
All other carloads	59,747	I	3,849	6.9	I	9,349	15.6
LCL traffic	164	D	108	39.7	D	4	2.4
Total Cars Loaded	425,212	I	26,473	6.6	I	60,937	16.7
Corresponding week of 1983	398,739						

	1984	1983	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (37 weeks)	14,654,333	13,190,036	I 11.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
36 weeks ended September 8	644.8	559.5	I 15.3
Week ended September 15	19.1	17.5	I 9.6
37 weeks cumulative	664.0	576.9	I 15.1

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